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Annual Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021

Noon—1 PM

Host: Nebraska ASCE

Location: Virtual

Program:

Please join us for our Annual Meeting! We will be welcoming the new officers, honoring student scholarship winners and life members along with discussing the last year of ASCE. The event is virtual and you can register up until the meeting starts.

[REGISTER HERE.](#)



**Brandon Gardels, PE,
M.ASCE**

From the President

Dear Nebraska ASCE Members,

I wanted to make everyone aware of our NE-ASCE Annual Meeting which will be hosted June 24th from noon to 1:00 PM as a virtual event. The annual meeting is the finale to our NE-ASCE year to celebrate the accomplishments of the ASCE members. Our board elections also take place during this event so members are encouraged to participate. Additional details for the annual meeting are provided in this newsletter.

As the NE-ASCE Annual Meeting approaches, I have been reflecting over the past year. I know that we have all had many challenges and hurdles within NE-ASCE, our profession, and our families. However, there were many lessons learned and positives over the year as well. Like many of you, I am grateful to be part of a profession that can be flexible and accommodating to family needs and resilient to various trials. I am also happy for the extra time that I was able to enjoy with family over this year.

I am excited for the future of NE-ASCE as virtual events will allow us to reach members across the entire state and future in-person events will allow for more networking that was greatly missed throughout this past year. I am also excited for the future of our profession as the need for innovative designs and resilient infrastructure is more critical than ever.

As always, please reach out to let me know how we can better the profession together through NE-ASCE.

Sincerely,

Brandon Gardels

Brandon Gardels, President, ASCE Nebraska Section

Transportation Conference Summary

This year's Transportation Conference was spread out over two Friday mornings in a virtual forum that saw presentations covering topics from Lincoln, Omaha, and other parts of Nebraska. This year's conference had 115 registrants and attendees were granted up to 7.5 hours of continuing education.

The University of Nebraska provided some updates to on-campus plans coming to the College of Engineering and different research that they have undertaken, and UNMC shared their ambitious plan for their Omaha campus. Nebraska DOT held various presentations on traffic incident management across the state, their long range transportation plan, as well as an update on their new RCUT intersection operating near Humphrey on Highway 81. Various projects that included new multi-use developments and multi-modal corridors were presented by the City of Omaha, as well as an in-depth look at the bond issue that was passed by the public. The City of Lincoln discussed how the new sales tax initiative is helping fund their projects and how their signal re-timing across the city ended up.

This was a very different year for the Transportation Conference, but all in all the conference was a success. Next year we will plan on having it back in person or perhaps a hybrid event like this year's Geotech Conference.

See you next year!



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Life Member Spotlight: Dennis Hirschbrunner

This month's spotlight member is the most recent addition to Nebraska's Life Members, Mr. Dennis Hirschbrunner. He attended the University of Nebraska and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1970. He joined ASCE while he was attending school and supported it after graduation.

His favorite part about being a Civil Engineer was working with public infrastructure and problem solving. He began his professional career at the Nebraska Department of Roads and worked his way to Executive Vice President. Dennis now semi retired since 2010 after working as the Director of Bus Development and Strategic Planning at HDR. He currently manages his own consulting firm.

In his free time he enjoys golfing, creating model railroads, collecting antique fire trucks and works on the Board of Directors for three companies: an engineering firm, a bank, and a hotel. He married his wife Terri Hirschbrunner in 1982 and together they had six daughters. He can also add the title of 'grandpa' to his long list of achievements with 12 grandchildren.

Congratulations Dennis on this wonderful achievement!



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Upcoming Events and Seminars

Program	Full Dates	City/State
Annual Meeting	June 24th	Virtual

ASCE Continuing Education

ASCE currently holds more than 300 live webinars annually and has available more than 400 on-demand webinars covering a wide variety of technical and management topics. To access these webinars, see the following links below:

ASCE's [live webinars](#) provide cost-effective training for large and small groups. Use Promo Code **WEBNEBSEC** to secure your preferred rate.

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600 members who are diverse
in practice & geography. ASCE
represents more than 150,000
civil engineers nationwide and
is America's oldest national
engineering society.**



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